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Scandinavian Centre News

PUBLISHED BY THE SCANDINAVIAN CENTRE CO-OPERATIVE ASSOCIATION

VOL. XIX NO. 18 453-5147

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FEBRUARY, 1981

CENTRE SOLD – BUILDING PROJECT UNDERWAY!

The present Scandinavian Centre has been sold!

The selling price was $1,250,000, and we have received a deposit of $100,000.

The closing date is May 1st, at which time an additional $300,000 will be paid to us.

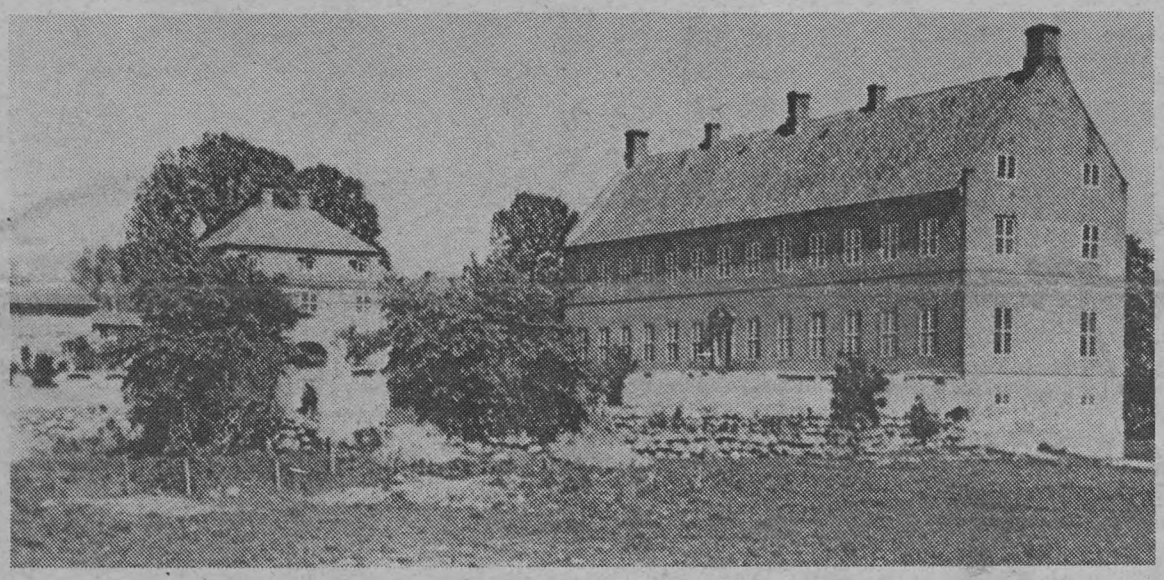
On possession date, September 1, 1981, we will receive the balance.

An application has been submitted to the City of Edmonton for the 5.04-acre parcel located at 95th Street and 42nd Avenue, and approval is anticipated both by the Economic Affairs Committee and City Council in due course. The Building Committee, chaired by Harv Haugen, and the Finance Committee, chaired by Doug Peterson, have worked very hard under great pressure to meet deadlines.

With a different piece of property of a different shape with different features, and in view of the many operational difficulties and the expense involved in the concept which was developed for the first parcel of land we hoped to acquire, it was necessary to adopt a different tack; we have now approved a new concept which we know you will find pleasing. It was not possible to have drawings ready in time for the newspaper deadline, but we will go into detail in the March paper.

Full discussion will take place at the Annual General Meeting which is scheduled for March 17th at 8:00 p.m. at the Centre — we hope to see you there.

Selsø - THE CASTLE THAT NEVER SAID DIE!



Selsø Castle, located at Hornsherred, Zealand, is a new Danish tourist attraction almost certain to acquire fame all over Europe within the next few years. Selsø - Denmark's first renaissance castle - was built in 1576 - and later - in 1733 - converted to baroque style. Selsø has stood virtually untouched since the 1790's its owners -unbelievable though it may sound - did not have time to use it - so the castle was allowed to fall into desrepair. Fortunately for posterity, the metre-deep layer of refuse, rubble and rubbish which accumulated over 144 years of disuse preserved the castle's original interior from dilapidation - providing us today after partial restoration with an authentic picture of how the Danish aristocracy lived centuries ago.

Amazingly few of Denmark's 500 or so historic castles, houses and palaces are open to the public. Only a dozen or so privately owned manor houses open their rooms and apartments to the public. Indeed the only castle on Zealand which visitors are allowed to see from top to bottom - all the way through from fine apartment of the nobility to wretched servants quarters and grim, squalid prison dungeons below - is Selsø, at Hornsherred.

Without exaggerating Selsø is quite in Denmark. It is the only castle completely unchanged since the 1790's in Denmark - so the building comprises several rooms decorated in some of the oldest wallpaper extant in Denmark, as well as featuring some of Denmark's best preserved baroque rooms, the oldest intact kitchen in the country and many other exciting aspects.

Proof that Selsø is in a class all by itself can be seen from the fact that along with the quaint olde worlde town of Elsinore - it was chosen as Denmark's entry in European Conservation Year 1975, featuring in conservation year exhibitions held abroad in such distinguished venues as the Rijksmuseum in Amsterdam. Selsø was also a showpiece in International Museums Year 1974. Selsø's fame has in fact spread far and wide with Norwegian radio American TV stations doing programmes on it.

The fact that the castle has been uninhabited for 150 years has nothing to do with proverty - on the contrary - an excess of wealth lies behind the castle's neglect. The castle's last occupant, Agathe Von Qualen Plessen, left only one heir who owned 20 estates and was thus simply not in any position to be able to inhabit - or keep them all up! After Selsø Castle has been uninhabited for a whole generation, no one could be bothered to restore or modernise it - so it remained unoccupied, apart from bird, bat and some say ghost lodgers. The fact that Selsø stood empty for so long is indeed a happy event for Danish architecture and culture. For many years the castle had neither roof nor windows - but despite damp and wet - it survived miraculously.

In 1972 Grete and Berhard Linder - a Danish journalist couple - took over the property by agreement with the Danish Building Survey Authority, restoring it gradually and making an unusual museum out of it.

The restoration work has been carried out in close cooperation with the Danish National Museum, Helge Rasmussen, the renovator-in-chief of Selsø Castle, performing nothing short of a miraculous piece of work! The restoration of Selsø is thought to be the most major private project of its kind carried out to date in Denmark. To help finance the expensive restoration project, the castle was opened to the public in 1973. Since then Selsø has had 78,000 paying visitors and this summer visitor number 100,000 is expected to view the castle.

Every year cultural arrangements, such as concerts, demonstrations of renaissance, dancing, and exhibitions are staged at Selsø Castle. A permanent exhibition on the historie houses and castles of Zealand, and smaller exhibitions on 18th century artisanry, costumes and dress are also to be seen at Selsø.

Selsø Castle is open from 11am-5pm on weekends/national holidays until 29th October, as well as daily from 1pm-5pm during the school summer holidays ending 6th August and Autumn holiday 16th-22nd October. Selsø is situated near Skibby, at Hornsherred, some 55 kilometres west of Copenhagen.

Due to the fact that Selso was unoccupied for 150 years the castle has the most complete mediaeval kitchen under the basement vaults of the 400 years old buildings.

IT'S IMPORTANT!

.....that as many shareholders as can possibly be at this year's annual meeting on March 17th at the Scandinavian Centre come out for the discussions.

We have an exciting new building project underway and we need participation.

We're looking foward to one of the best-attended annual meetings in the Centre's history — make sure you're part of it.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MARCH 1980

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Scandinavian Centre News

is produced and published by the Scandinavian Centre Co-Operative Association Limited — 14220 - 125 Avenue (Yellowhead Trail), Edmonton, Alberta, T5L 3C2.

The deadline for material to be published will appear in each preceding month's issue, and copy should, whenever possible, be submitted typewritten and double spaced.

Cost of advertising is $3.00 per column inch.

The Scandinavian Centre News is available to its members and members of Scandinavian groups, societies, organizations, associations or clubs at a cost of $5.00 for the ten issues published commencing in September of each year. Alternatively, any such group may purchase their total requirement of newspapers at a cost of 20¢ per paper per issue.

Non-members may subscribe to the Scandinavian Centre News at a cost of $6.00 for the above time period.

Any subscriptions, advertising, payment, change of address or other correspondence should be addressed to:

Scandinavian Centre News
14220 - 125 Avenue
Edmonton, Alberta
T5L 3C2

SPLINTERS FROM THE BOARD

CENTRE OPERATION:

On this page you will see the Operating Statement for the months of October, November and December, 1980. You will also see that WE MADE A PROFIT! Our thanks to Jens for his hard work and efficient management.

December was, as usual, a very busy month, and just about every Saturday night for the coming year is fully booked and has been for some time. We think this says something about the kind of food and service which is provided at the Centre.

NEWSPAPER:

Our work has been added to by the Post Office which now insists that the papers must be stamped individually. Again the paper will lose money because of increased costs, but not so mush as it has in previous years.

ANNUAL MEETING:

Our Annual General Meeting will be held this year on March 17th. We urgently need candidates for the Board of Directors: phone Astrid Hope at 469-4747 if you are interested, or if you know of someone whom you think would be a good candidate.

BUILDING PROJECT:

Details of the sale of the Centre are on the front page. We did not list the property, but we did state that we would look at offers. The one which we accepted was brought to us by Knowlton Realty Ltd. Since our building is of little use to anyone, the price was paid primarily for the 2.23 acres.

We must now get on with our new building as quickly as possible, and a lot of work is involved. We are all excited by the prospect of a Centre which will enable us to do so many more things. We hope to see you out to the annual meeting for the discussion.

HERITAGE DAYS:

Susane Balslov has accepted a Board of Directors' appointment to chair this committee; representatives of the affiliated groups are:

Curtis Halldorson —
Icelandic Society
Tage Aaquist —
Danish Society 'Dania'
Astrid Hope —
Solglyt Lodge, Sons of Norway
Beulah Hinton —
Vasa Lodge Skandia
Anneli Thurlin - Finnish Society

We do not yet have the name of the representative of the Nordic Society.

SCANDINAVIAN SOCIETIES AND CLUBS IN EDMONTON

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ICELANDIC SOCIETY — Leif Oddson, President
6412 - 84 Street **466-6838**
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Box 75, Devon **987-3727**
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6216 - 92B Avenue **466-9061**
VASA LODGE SKANDIA — Ray Nyroos, President
7207 - 92B Avenue **469-8286**
NORDIC SOCIETY — Orla Holm, President
12010 - 123 Street **452-8207**
SCANDINAVIAN CENTRE — Eileen Peterson, President
2 Beacon Crescent, St. Albert **459-3706**

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Please advise **The Scandinavian Centre News** as soon as possible of any change of address. Cut out your name and address from the front page and paste it in the space below, or print your old address. If you get your paper through another group other than being a shareholder, kindly mention this.

And then give your new address and mail to:
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I now receive the paper from:
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☐ Danish Society
☐ Icelandic Society
☐ Vasa Lodge
☐ Finnish Society
☐ Sons of Norway
☐ Some other source

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Vasa Lodge NORDSTJÄRNAN
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Christine Ellingson
1191 Alder Avenue
Moose Jaw, Saskatchewan

STEPHAN G. STEPHANSSON SOCIETY
L.K. Johnson
Markerville, Alberta

OPERATING STATEMENT FOR THE 3 MONTH PERIOD OF OCTOBER - DECEMBER 1980

REVENUES	
Banquets	$64,396.70
Discount Re Ethnic Groups	554.64
Corkage	7,598.60
Meetings	2,383.60
Misc. Income	2,247.70
P.A. System	150.00
Staff Purchase	479.63
Cigarettes	249.39
Outside Catering	1,062.00
TOTAL REVENUES	$78,012.98T
COST OF REVENUES	
Food Purchase	$26,107.79
Soft Drink Purchase	1,358.80
Cigarette Purchase	151.01
Advertising	850.00
Gas Purchase	321.87
Insurance (Increase of Value)	286.00
Interest Re Savings Acct. & Term Deposit	940.26
Office Expenses	111.70
Garbage & Ground Maint.	586.00
Janitor Supplies	570.45
Equipment & Repair (Cox Plumb. $975.67)	1,089.92
Utilities	2,017.19
Misc. Kitchen Supplies	789.35
Salaries - Adm. Plus X-Mas Bonus	4,200.00
Salaries - Kitchen Plus X-Mas Bonus	18,352.89
Salaries - Maint. Plus X-Mas Bonus	3,212.00
Postage	99.02
Workers Comp. Board	288.75
Sundry Exp.	1,003.79
Telephone	1,038.53
Linen Rental	2,722.89
Van Lease	876.00
Mis. Van Repair (Repair & 1. Service Check-up)	319.88
3 Month Depreciation	3,905.19
TOTAL COST	$69,318.76T
TOTAL PROFIT	$8,694.22

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VASA LODGE SKANDIA

by Don Samuelson

I've decided to start the New Year right by writing an article and trying to get one in every month!

At the last meeting the installation of officers took place:

Chairman - Ray Nyroos
Vice-Chairman - Tom Pearson
Recording Secretary - Doreen Nyroos
Assistant Recording Secretary - Maj Samuelson
Financial Secretary - Jane Wold
Assistant Financial Secretary - Shirley Huffman
Treasurer - Linnea Lodge
Chaplain - Alice Sorenson
Master of Ceremonies - Glen Helen
Assistant Master of Ceremonies - Oliver Desautel
Inner Guard - Grant Johnson
Outer Guard - Milton Fawcett
Past Chairman - Lennart Petersson
Trustees: Eric Pierre; Vi Watson; Burt Watson
Auditors: Oliver Desautel; Richard Quitzau; Clarence Berg

On the sick list are Roy Samuelson, Henry Lodge and Margaret Engvall.

I am sorry to announce the deaths of two of our members — on December 10th Gordon Samuelson, and on January 6th Milda Anderson.

* * * * *

The Sports Committee is going to sponsor a Vasa Winter Weekend; details will be given at the next meeting.

* * * * *

Linnea Lodge, one of our most highly-regarded members, recently received another award from the Alberta Government under the Achievement Awards program.

* * * * *

Until next month.....

HAVE A CELEBRATION ON YOUR OWN

by Susanne Balslov

The time around Fastelavn is also the time for carnivals and fun.

Why not have your own Fastelavns celebration this year - make fastelavnsris for your children, get some kids together to 'sla katten af tonden', or get your friends together for a carnival? I'm sure you'll have lots of fun!

LISTEN TO ... THE SCANDINAVIAN HOUR

EVERY SECOND SUNDAY

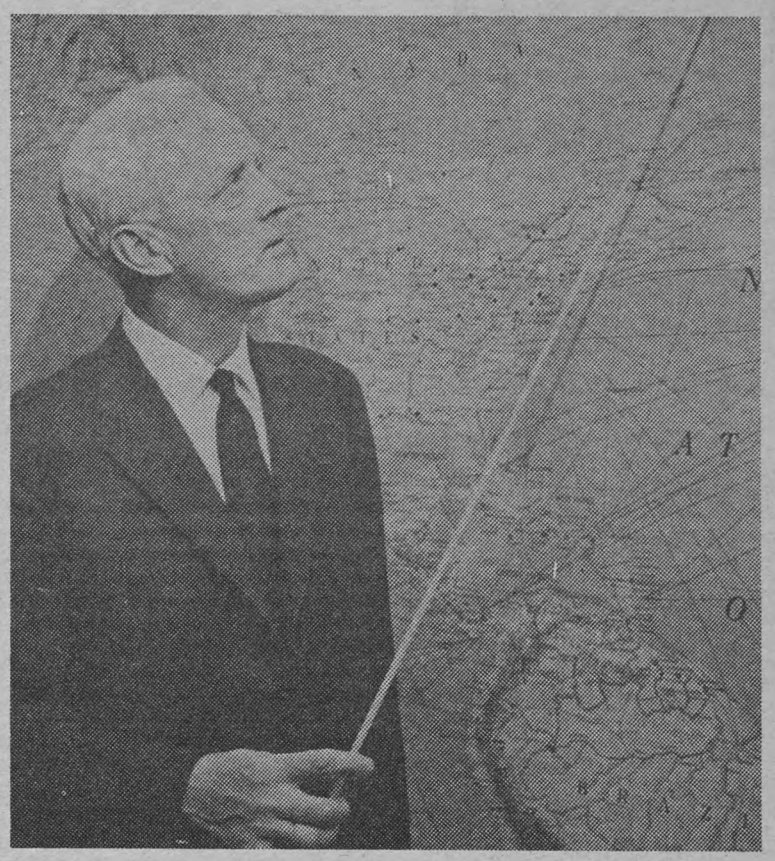
ON RADIO STATION CKUA AT 5:30 P.M.
AM 580 Kz. — FM 94.9 Mz.

DANISH 5:30 - 5:50 p.m. NORWEGIAN 5:50 - 6:10 p.m.
SWEDISH 6:10 - 6:30 p.m.

The Helge Ingstad Saga

(From the Sons of Norway "Viking")

by Bent Vanberg



Helge Ingstad

The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) has designated the old Norse settlement at L'Anse aux Meadows, Newfoundland—found and explored by the Norwegian couple, Helge and Anne Stine *Ingstad* in and after 1960—as one of the nine sites most worthy of being preserved. UNESCO ranks the site alongside the pyramids in Egypt, the Aachen Cathedral in Germany, the ancient city of Quito in Ecuador and five other places. The Canadian Government has already granted 10 million dollars to a Vinland Museum where the excavations have taken place during the last twenty years.

After the little settlement of L'Anse aux Meadows in this way had come into international prominence the interesting ruins of eight buildings are still being examined by archeologists, and pieces of bone, turf and charcoal are said to be about 1,000 years old according to radiocarbon tests.

Still, questions remain, such as: Could cold, bleak L'Anse aux Meadows be the land Leif Erikson named Vinland? It's highly probable to some Vikings, the area might be considered comparatively warm, warm enough for a variety of edible berries and grapes to grow. On the other hand, some scholars claim "Vin", in old Norse language also meant grass. Whatever the interpretation, the evidence pointing to a Viking settlement in Newfoundland, five centuries before Columbus, leaves no doubt in anybody's mind. Archeologists from Scandinavia, Iceland, United States and Canada have unearthed proof the Vikings were there. Among the items found in the remains of Norse-type buildings are a stone lamp, iron rivets, a spindle whorl, bone needles, a ring-headed bronze pin and iron fragments. These articles, and quite a few others, were unknown to the Indians of that time.

One building, nearly 80 feet long, had six rooms including an indoor cookpit. Searchers also found what they believe was a sauna bath because of the large number of cracked stones in a fireplace. They also found evidence that the settlers had their own blacksmith's shop and they dug up bones of domesticated animals, also unknown to the Indians.

The site of the diggings have been turfed over to protect it for the future, but the outline of the buildings has been exaggerated for easier viewing.

Parks Canada has opened a visitor reception center near the site, containing a display of Norse history and culture with several artifacts and ancient Norse tools and weapons. After visiting this interpretation center it takes little imagination to visualize the tiny Viking settlement as it was 1,000 years ago.

The name L'Anse aux Meadows comes from the French L'Anse-aux-Meduses (Jellyfish Bay) since the area was settled by the French from 1713.

Bulletin Board

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* * * * *

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SCANDINAVIAN CENTRE

SOLGLYT SPOTLIGHT

by Bob Burt

Those rushing Norwegians were on the go again this Christmas and New Year, covering both east and west coasts:

Stan and Louise Johnson spent the Christmas holidays in Las Vegas.

* * * * *

Chris Dreyer is spending several weeks in Hawaii and should be back in early February.

* * * * *

Inge and Betty Anderson and Carol travelled to the Caribbean to spend Christmas cruising. Carol returned early, but Inge and Betty later spent several weeks in Florida.

* * * * *

Roy and Dorothy Sundby also spent Christmas and New Years in the Caribbean, travelling on the new S.S. Norway. What a way to travel!

* * * * *

Sev Berge and his wife travelled to Kelowna to enjoy watching their grandchildren ski on Big White and at Kamloops. They had planned to attend a wedding at the coast, but weather conditions prevented them from doing so.

* * * * *

George and Alice Stewart had planned a ski outing a Lake Taho, California, with Rob and Audrey Johns, but as there was no snow, there was no go!

* * * * *

Ken and Selma Domier spent Christmas in Calgary with their son; also present were Ken's father and mother, Helmer and Ida, from Norquay, Saskatchewan. The group then spent New Years at Ken's in Edmonton.

* * * * *

Harry and Bea Huser and family travelled to Grande Prairie at Christmas to be with the family there.

* * * * *

The February meeting of Sons of Norway will be held on February 11th and will combine a business meeting with initiation of new members. Bea Huser will present pictures and costumes of Gudbrandsdal, along with ethnic food and a display.

SEV BERGE
NEW "BOSS"

Members of the Torske Klubben braved very heavy roads and bad weather Jan. 6th to welcome the new Boss, Sev Berge. Over 80 attended, enjoying the fish supper and good fellowship. Torske Suppers are normally held the first Tuesday of the month, taking holidays July and August.

Ken Domier had prepared some hot "Glogg" for the members as a warm-up for the supper - kind of hit the spot that night! It was much appreciated.

Prior to another of those excellent suppers, Harv Haugen introduced a barbershop quartet which everyone enjoyed; they are becoming quite a regular program.

Following the supper, Treasurer Bob Burt was called upon to report on the past years' finances. Reports had been distributed to members covering the past two years showing the profit of this successful club. Ken Domier, past Boss, was congratulated and thanked for his leadership over the past two years, and presented with a briefcase containing added mementos.

Guest speaker for the evening was Jarl Omholt-Jensen, who is a former National Cross-Country ski contender, a former radio announcer, past editor of Nordic Canada Ski Magazine, editor of Canadian Nordic Competition Tabloid, as well as a colour commentator for CTV covering the Olympic skiing at Lake Placid.

Jarl showed a series of slides, commenting on each, naming skiers pictured (World-renowned and Canadian jumpers), naming the place and event and making it all come to life. His talk was spontaneous and knowledgable, and all present thoroughly enjoyed his presentation. He spoke of his Norwegian connection: he was born in Oslo, moving to Quebec, Canada, at the age of two. The family moved to Inuvik where he lived prior to his residence in Alberta. He is fluent in English, French, Eskimo, Russian and other languages.

He is humorously known in Quebec as "ALBERTA CRUDE".

Kris Nyhus thanked Jarl on behalf of those present for the slide presentation and his informative talk on cross-country and ski jumping.

The next meeting of Torske Klubben will be February 3rd, when we expect a slide presentation on Norway, and possibly the Caribbean, by Joren Steen.

Finland is Funland

Looking for a change in locale for your winter skiing? If you have a chance to take a European vacation and are an avid ski enthusiast, you'll find 1,000 miles of well-groomed cross-country ski tracks snaking awe-inspiring snow country in Finnish Lapland; snow-laden trees sparkling in the sun throughout the rest of Finland, too.

NATIONAL PASTIME —

Cross country skiing is a way of life in Finland; actually, the country's national winter pastime. For centuries, skiing was the only means of transportation, especially in the far North of Finland, and thus this method of travel became a natural form of exercise. It probably accounts for why skiers who follow the trails in this Scandinavian nation today feel an authenticity in the atmosphere.

North American skiers who've experienced the joy of skiing with complete freedom of spirit in Finland are quick to tell you how impressed they are that you ski at no cost in this country, and each town maintains its ski trails. Further, the variety of the terrain in Finland adds interest and surprise to the ski trails.

CASUAL SPORT —

Throughout the country, the trails are well marked with colored bunting and maps. Aside from the thrill of skiing in ideal country territory, the aura of solitude and quiet is an uplifting sensation here. Finns look upon skiing, also, as a casual and natural sport so you don't have to dress for it. Or drag your skiis from home with you, either. Boots and skis can be rented or bought inexpensively anywhere in the country and certainly in the 17 major ski resorts that are located in excellent skiing area. No matter what city you might be in, you can take your skis on board trams or buses without anyone fussing. Several of the ski resorts have ski schools along with fine accommodations, excellent trails and plenty of apres-ski activities. One thing don't forget when you leave home, take your sun glasses! They'll cut the glare of the snow and you pick up a first-class suntan.

VARIETY OF CHOICE —

Since the Gulf of Finland and the 62,000 lakes in the country are frozen in winter, you might want to pack a lunch kit and ski over the thick ice exploring any number of small islands. You might make a note, too, that trails are in various lengths to accommodate your skills and endurance. Waxing stations are many times posted along the routes as a service and you'll find a few stations for picking up hot drinks and snacks. The Finns make sure you can enjoy their winter wonderland while you are with them.

For the hale and hearty, in the event you are in that class, ski touring in Lapland adds a new dimension to the winter sport. The expeditions (run daily) wind through the exotic wilderness. If you are a beginner or novice, skip it. Away from civilization, after a day in the wide open spaces, tracking on miles of snow, you bed down in a "fell" (mountain) hut for overnighting. These huts are scattered around Lapland and are free to skiers. They're furnished sparsely but adequately, and all that's required is you putting them back as you found them when you leave in the morning.

Should you remain in Helsinki instead of heading North, you can still get in all the skiing you want; in some cases, glide right out on a trail from your hotel. There are usually races in the Helsinki area, and nearby cities, you can enter. In February, the International 75 km Finlandia Cross Country Ski Race from Hameenlinna to Lahti, Finland's noted sports center, just a few miles from Helsinki, attracts as many as 7,000 starters.

OTHER SPORTS —

Best part of a winter vacation in Finland is you vary your sports program as much as you like. After a few days in Lapland, where you not only ski over rolling fells and then through silvery stretches of "tundra", where, if you are lucky, you might see the awesome, unforgettable Northern Lights (Aurora Borealis) painting the sky in vibrant colors, you might try for a few other novel experiences. For instance, one of the leading travel agencies in Finland has put together a package that might strike your fancy. It's a 5 day/4 night "Dog team and cross country ski safari" on which you alternate the pattern: pulled in your sleigh by a dog team and then up and skiing. Not to your taste? How about trying your hand at ice fishing, drilling a hole in solid ice of one of country's lakes and testing your luck? Or, as a choice conversation piece for when you get back home, how about the more exotic exercise---participating in a reindeer safari, joining a caravan of 20 or so reindeer-drawn sleighs into the Arctic wilderness! You'll fly home with a "reindeer driving" license to prove you were there.

SAMPLE FINNISH CULTURE —

Finland is truly a natural wonderland in winter. A visit this year can be one you'll long remember among the best holidays of your life. Don't forget, when you get back to Helsinki (if you've spent your vacation in Lapland), before heading home, to take in the sights of the capital; enjoy the gastronomic delights of the many excellent restaurants that specialize in everything from Continental cuisine to steaks and hamburgers, (if you are homesick for them); from Russian specialties to tasty traditional Finnish dishes.

Do a bit of pub crawling, too, while you're there. Visit discos; drink in Finnish-flavored culture by attending a concert of ballet, and, whatever you do, be sure to meander through a few of the smart boutiques on Esplanadi Boulevard, the Fifth Avenue of the capital city, for some of Finland's world renowned products. You'll find surprisingly good buys!

BOOK IN ADVANCE —

Skier or not, a winter holiday in Finland is a treat. If you're like so many other thousands who've made their first trip there it's a safe bet you'll make it back for a summer vacation, when the country takes on another light-hearted hue through its summer festivals, its sailing regattas, and a host of other diversified pleasures. In the meantime, there are all sorts of ski touring packages offered for winter 1980-81 and loads of inexpensive city tours. Finnair, the nation's national airline, has developed some attractive and affordable ski packages and the tours are all price-guaranteed. Just be sure to book your trip in advance for Finland is extremely popular at winter time with so many cross-country skiing devotees taking advantage of the excellent skiing conditions.

If you want to know more about skiing in Finland write for a free "Winter Finland" brochure to: Finland National Tourist Office, 75 Rockefeller Plaza, New York, N.Y. 10019 or contact your travel agent.

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WHAT IS FASTELAVN?

Riding Fastelavn on Amager, 1882

Fastelavnsridt pa Amager. Xylografi 1882

by Susanne Balslov

- Fastelavn er mit navn
boller vil jeg have.
Hvis jeg ingen boller far
sa laver jeg ballade. -

Most people from Denmark will remember this little song from their childhood. The children sang this little song when they "fastelavns-monday", (Shovetide Monday) went from door to door dressed up, shaking a little box or piggy-bag, collecting a few pennies or some freshly-made 'Fastelavns buns'.

Fastelavn, Shorovetide and Mardi-Gras are all connected with Lent.

February or the beginning of March is the time for celebrating Fastelavn; it is placed 40 days before Palm Sunday. The word 'Fastelavn' originates from the old Low German (Plattyske) word - VASTELAVENT - which actually means the evening before Lent starts - FASTEAFTEN. The first day of Lent is Ash Wednesday, so the few days prior to that were celebrated with social get-togethers, games, and other kinds of activities.

Some of the old traditions related to Fastelavn are still alive. For example, the children dress up on Fastelavns-Sunday and get together to 'sla katten af tonden'. In the morning they waken their parents by hitting them with a Fastelavnris, a small whisk decorated with coloured paper, small toys and candy. As a treat, buns were then served to the children.

In several places in Denmark, for instance in Dragor on the island of Amager, Fastelavn is still celebrated in the old manner, where the game of hitting a barrel until it falls apart, 'tondeslagning', is done on horseback. After the game is over, the farm boys go from farm to farm in their costumes and are treated with food and beer; in return they invite the girls to the evening's party.

Fastelavns-Fun in the Country, 1861

'FASTELAVN'
AT THE MULTICULTURAL CENTRE

Katten slas af tonden. Xylografi 1860

Fastelavn 1860

For the first time Fastelavn will be celebrated at the Multicultural Centre in Stony Plain.

Throughout the year the Centre offers various programs for children, and this year a Danish Fastelavn will be one of them, starting on February 24th and continuing until March 6th.

These programs are available only for groups and must be booked ahead of time; for more information please phone the Multicultural Centre at 963-2777.

On Sunday, March 1st, there will be an open house in connection with the Fastelavns program, and everyone is welcome that day. Bring your children or grandchildren dressed up - you too, if you like!

We will spend the afternoon together with various activities. Open house starts at 1:00 p.m. in the cabin. At about 1:30 we will be ready to 'sla Katten af tonden', and for that we need all our small friends to use all their muscles so that we can get our barrel down and choose the Cat-king and Cat-queen.

There will be prizes for the best costumes, and later in the afternoon we will tell you about the traditions behind Fastelavn in northern Europe and show you how to make your own Fastelavnsris.

We are looking forward to seeing you all dressed up on Sunday, March 1st. For more information call the Multicultural Centre at 963-2777 - open every day except Monday from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., Sunday from 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Remember that the Multicultural Centre has a new exhibition in the exhibition room each month. In February we are showing Alberta College of Arts shows Fibre Art '80, and in March pottery by Sam Uhlick and quilted textiles by Judy Villet will be featured.

The kitchen is open from noon to 2:00 p.m. with delicious home-cooked meals; from 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. desserts and coffee are served.

Fastelavn 1976

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Finnish Footnotes

by Anja Sahuri

Well, another year has passed again and the new executive is just about ready to start work within the Society with new ideas and new outlooks.

Last year was a very busy year for Finnish Society with more socials than we have had for many years, although sometimes the participation was not very good.

* * * * *

On behalf of the 1980 executive of the Finnish Society of Edmonton I would like to extend my heartiest thanks to Anneli Thurlin who, in her capacity as "Paa-emanta" has prepared many a good meal during the year. She also looked after the Heritage Days, painted the back drop for Scandapades and took part in the Finnish Canadian Grand Festival last summer. Thank You, Anneli, and of course thank you to Jaakko for understanding and patiently helping her out.

* * * * *

Also many thanks to Kati Vaisanen and all the folk dancers for all the hard work you did during the year. Thank you for everyone who took part in Finnish Canadian Grand Festival held in Vancouver. Thank you to all ladies for donating the food for our Socials. Thank you to Judy VanEs for numerous hours she has spent in preparing and decorating the hall.

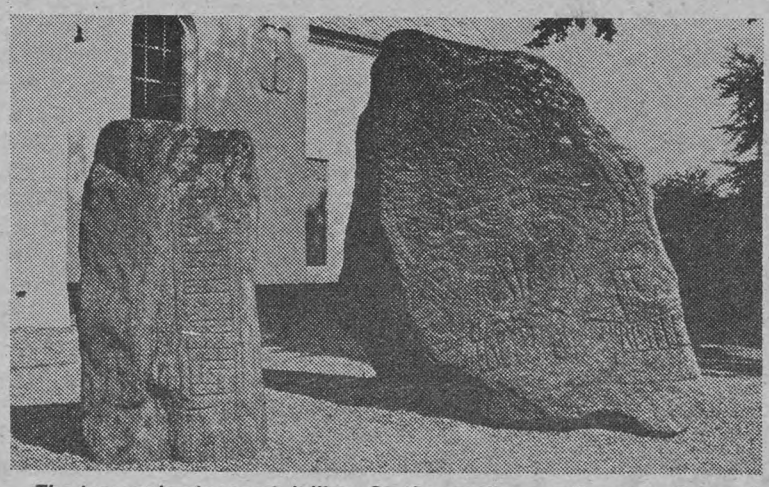
* * * * *

All in all I would like to thank everyone who has helped us in any way during the year.

* * * * *

For the bang up finish to the old year and a good start to the New Year, we held a New Year's party at the Scandinavian Centre. It was a great success - not so much money wise or participation wise, but everyone present had a good time. There was delicious food, a great dance orchestra and a good feeling among everyone. HAPPY NEW YEAR ALL.

Gorm the Old rediscovered?



The two runic stones at Jelling. On the smaller one the name Denmark appears for the first time. The larger one records that Harald "made the Danes Christians".

(From the Danish Journal)

A team of Danish archeologists working in Jelling Church, near Vejle, East Jutland, believe they have discovered the earthly remains of Viking King Gorm the Old and his Queen, Thyra, in a burial chamber.

Gorm the Old was the first authenticated King of Denmark, reigning from around AD 900-950.

Jelling is the site of Denmark's oldest royal monumental tombs. By the massive burial mounds are two priceless runic stones, one erected by Gorm to Thyra, and another, larger one, erected around AD 980 to Gorm and Thyra by their son Harald Bluetooth. The name Denmark appears for the first time on Thyra's stone. A larger stone records that Harald "made the Danes Christian", for which reason the stone is often referred to as Denmark's baptismal certificate.

Danish archeologists have been searching for the remains of Gorm and Thyra since 1820, when excavations of a burial mound near the church in Jelling were first carried out. The newly discovered burial chamber — situated under the site of the first Jelling Church built around AD 960 — contains skeletons and large quantities of gold thread and other Viking remains including silver figurines — leading the archeologists to believe that the burial chamber — which is 10 square metres in area — has housed royalty.

The archeological team, led by museum inspector Knud Krogh of the Danish National Museum in Copenhagen, is to continue its excavations of the vast subterranean burial area beneath the church in the hope of confirming the new hypothesis that Harald Bluetooth erected the church over the burial chamber of his parents as a monument to the arrival of christianity in Denmark. Harald Bluetooth, who had earlier taken part in Viking raids in Ireland, founded Denmark, colonized Norway, and made the Danes christian.

Christopher Follett

ICELANDIC NEWSLETTER

by Ninna Campbell

"Meet the Icelanders" night will be held February 8th at the Scandinavian Centre at 7:30 p.m. A film of Iceland will be shown, after which coffee will be served. Special invitation is extended to Icelanders who have recently moved to Edmonton.

* * * * *

Plans for Thorrablot are well under way. Chairman of the Thorrablot Committee is Al Arnason, and the date is February 28th at the Scandinavian Centre. (see ad)

* * * * *

An executive meeting was held January 7th at Harold and Helen Halldorson's. Plans for the 1981 activities were discussed. Tentative plans call for a Tombola in April with a suggestion that the proceeds go towards the Icelandic Language Camp at Husovik, Manitoba.

A donation of $100 was sent to Logberg-Heimskringla.

* * * * *

A vacancy exists on the Alberta Heritage Council for a representative from the Icelandic Societies in Alberta.

* * * * *

Our Alberta Heritage Day representative is Curtis Halldorson.

Markerville Picnic Day will be discussed at the February meeting.

* * * * *

Next meeting February 4th at Leif and Lucille Oddsons - 6412 - 84 Street at 8:00 p.m.

* * * * *

Congratulations to Robert and Gloria MacNaughton the birth of their son, Travis Cory, 8 lbs. 11 ozs.

* * * * *

Carole and Roland Tougas of Ottawa became parents of a wee girl, Lisa Carole, 5 lbs. 11 ozs. on November 7th. Proud grandparents are Walter and Beulah Arason.

* * * * *

Leif and Lucille Oddson also became grandparents with the arrival of Leah Rae Hagen on December 18, 1980. Happy parents are Dave and Loni of Maidstone, Saskatchewan.

* * * * *

Christmas greetings were received from Iceland from our ex-Edmontonian Icelanders, Ari and Sigrun Arnalds (and Thorsteinn); Hilmer and Elin Agustsson (and Agust and Arnaldur); and the Vilhjalmsson family. All asked to be remembered to their friends in Edmonton.

SCANDINAVIAN KITCHEN CORNER

— Soups —

Swedish meat soup

Köttsoppa

6 servings

- *2 pounds soup meat*
- *3 quarts water*
- *2 medium carrots, coarsely diced*
- *1 turnip, cut into ½" cubes*
- *1 stalk celery, diced*
- *1 medium onion, spiked with 2 cloves*
- *2 scallions or leeks, sliced*
- *2 teaspoons salt*
- *1 teaspoon white pepper*

Place meat in large saucepan; add water. Bring to a boil; skim. Add salt; reduce heat and simmer about 2 hours. Add carrot, turnip, celery, onion and scallions; sprinkle with salt and pepper. Bring to a boil again; reduce heat and simmer 1 hour. Remove meat, cut into pieces, return to soup and heat thoroughly.

Danish brown cabbage soup

Brunkaalsuppe

4 servings

- *½ cup margarine or butter*
- *1 small head cabbage, shredded*
- *1 tablespoon sugar*
- *2 (10½ ounce) cans beef consomme*
- *2 cans water*
- *1 teaspoon salt*
- *½ teaspoon pepper*
- *1 tablespoon chopped parsley*

In a large saucepan, melt margarine. Add cabbage; stir frequently, until cabbage is coated with margarine. Sprinkle with sugar; saute over low heat 3 minutes, stirring occasionally. Add consomme, water, salt and pepper. Cover; simmer over low heat about 20 minutes or until cabbage is tender. Sprinkle with parsley before serving.

DEMONSTRATING CROSS-STITCH

HAANDARBEJDETS FREMME

Would you be interested in spending a Sunday afternoon or two demonstrating Danish embroidery — especially cross-stitch — at the Multicultural Centre in Stony Plain?

Material will be provided by the Centre and the finished product will be used for exhibition purposes.

Embroidery kits from the Danish Handcraft Guild — Handarbejdets Fremme — are for sale at the Multicultural Centre, and we are therefore looking for people to demonstrate for us on Sunday afternoons from 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

If you would like to do this, please call Lene Holgersen at the Multicultural Centre — 963-2777 — any day except Monday between 10:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m., or Sunday between 11:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m.

PULK SKIING

The state of art of Pulk Skiing was examined November 21-23, 1980, at the Vinland National Center in Minnesota. Pulk skiers, pulk craftsmen, and HEALTHsports, Inc. members throughout the country met to discuss safety, teaching techniques, and pulk design. Pulk skiing is a relatively new sport for people with mobility impairments, but is growing rapidly. The pulk is an adapted Norwegian sled that is used for both cross country and downhill skiing by persons who use wheelchairs, crutches, canes or walkers.

Instruction in pulk skiing will be offered through Ski for Light and the Vinland National Center. Contact the Center for further information.

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by Jens Gron

STOCK POT NEWS

The Christmas rush is finally over and we can again go back to a less hectic work routine. As usual, the parties were seemingly endless from the middle of November until the middle of this month.

Our biggest problem at such times is the lack of storage space. With the freezers downstairs filled to overflowing, the Centre's van came in handy as a mobile fridge. The food did not suffer half as much as the chauffeur.

But although I didn't mind driving with blue fingers and chattering teeth, having lutefisk in the backseat was another matter. So the lutefisk for the Sons of Norway had to be put in the garage. First, I made sure my dogs didn't like it - they didn't! As a SON member told me, if a cat had come across a piece of lutefisk, he'd probably have buried it. yes, I am looking forward to the day we move into the new Centre.

But on the whole, things went very smoothly. The furnace only broke down twice, and only one water pipe sprang a leak, so we survived the season with minor scraps and bruises.

Susan, our full-time helper didn't fare as well. Unfortunately, she has been ill since shortly before Christmas and has not yet been able to return to work.

My wife got an organic cookbook for Christmas. I promise you, after a glass of milk with carob powder, brewer's yeast and blackstrap molasses, even lutefisk tastes good!

WINTER GAMES NORWEGIAN STYLE

Winter Games this year are sponsored by Valhalla #341 Lodge, Calgary, March 6, 7, 8th in Calgary.

Edmonton Club is asked to get their lists of curlers, bowlers, skiers and Norwegian Whist participants in as soon as possible. Let's make it another clean sweep. It is always more difficult to hold top position than to strive for it, so let's make it two in a row.

Registration fee is $25.00; $20.00 for non-participants. A list is required before February 15th. Headquarters and social events will be at the Westgate Motor Hotel. Get your teams together to practice now.

ROOM RATES PER NIGHT

WESTGATE MOTOR HOTEL 1111 - 33 St. S.W. (60 rooms)

1 person $27.00	2 persons $33.00	3 persons $36.00
4 persons $48.00	family of 4 - $38.00	plus $3.00 per extra

LORD NELSON INN 1020 - 8 Ave. S.W. (30 rooms)

1 person $30.00	2 people $33.00	3 people $35.00
4 people $45.00		family of 4 - $35.00

TRAVELODGE NORTH 2304 - 16 Ave. N.W. (30 rooms)

1 person $29.00	2 people $32.00	3 people $35.00
4 people $39.00		family of 4 - $35.00

HOSPITALITY INN 2359 Banff Trail N.W. (50 rooms)

1 person $46.00	2 people $48.00	3 people $54.00
4 people $58.00		family of 4 approx. $54.00

THE ICELANDIC SOCIETY OF EDMONTON

invites you to attend

THORRABLOT

the annual Icelandic Spring Festival
at the Scandinavian Centre

SATURDAY — FEBRUARY 28

Social Hour	6:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.
Banquet	7:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.
Program	8:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.
Dancing	9:00 p.m. - 1:00 a.m.

Tickets: $15.00 PER PERSON

Call Al Arnason — 455-7946

ODDS & ENDS

THE RAILWAYS LIVE

Scheduled for June 13, 1981 in Stockholm is a historical railway cavalcade, celebrating the 125th anniversary of the Swedish Railways. About 30 different types of trains - steam, electric, diesel - will participate and span the years from 1856 - 1981. Included in the cavalcade will be a representative collection of locomotives, carriages and trolleys. Prior to the cavalcade in Stockholm, from June 6 to 12, the railway museum in Gavle (110 miles north of Stockholm) will exhibit a unique collection of trains. In conjunction with the exhibit the Swedish Railways will describe modern railway and traffic techniques.

MARATHON MANIA

Few sports can match marathon running in rapid growth. The New York Marathon has grown from a modest start of some 175 runners to 16,000 this year (with over 10,000 more who could not be accommodated). The Stockholm Marathon has also experienced an explosive growth with over 5,000 runners this year, making it the largest in Europe. For North American runners wishing to try their strength adn stamina in international competition, a special Stockholm Marathon tour package has been created. The 1981 running takes place Aug. 15 - when Stockholm is at its summer best!

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FEBRUARY 15, 1981

Christmas 1980

With all the excitement of the season, it was something special to attend the Childrens Christmas Party and Pot Luck Supper, December 14th at the Centre.

A goodly number attended, taking part in the singsong, the Harv Haugen balloon-blowing animated blowout, and Leigh Haugen and her friendly monkey. Santa was there as well, to give out candy and oranges and dance around the Christmas tree. A delicious supper was available with a large variety of goodies, tasty and delicious. An extra vote of thanks to all those present for their contribution to the affair.

Our congenial Social Director, Sandy Nielsen, added much to the event, filling the Christmas bags and setting the table for supper. The Free-loaders were present to help along with the singsong. Another most successful venture and another year at an end.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF SHAREHOLDERS

OF THE SCANDINAVIAN CENTRE

will be held on

TUESDAY — MARCH 17, 1981 — 8:00 P.M.

at the Scandinavian Centre

SUBSCRIPTIONS TO THIS PAPER EXPIRE

Guess we have to explain again about subscriptions!

They run from SEPTEMBER THROUGH AUGUST. If you don't send yours in until October, it will still expire with the July-August issue. We just cannot run a subscription service — it would cost us a fortune!

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Scandinavian Centre News
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GRANT McEWAN FEATURED AT TORSKE KLUBBEN

by Bob Burt

December 9th was ladies night at Torske Klubben Supper meeting. All members, their wives and friends look forward to this annual event.

Over 200 gathered at the Scandinavian Centre to partake of the Black Cod supper with all the trimmings. Kris Nyhus said grace and the meal began. There was beer, wine and akvavit on each table, and the waitresses certainly had a tough time feeding those hungry Norwegians. Dennis Lindberg was the jovial Master of Ceremonies.

Kare Hellum proposed a most interesting toast to the ladies, which was answered by Bea Huser.

Boss Ken Domier summed up the last two years' activities. The original Torske Klubben members were asked to stand and be recognized. In his annual report Ken praised all the guest speakers, the over increasing membership and the glorious fish. He thanked those members who helped him through his tour of service, making the year so successful. Sev Berge, the new Boss, was introduced; he in turn introduced his Directors -Dennis Lindberg, Stan Johnson and Chris Hale, as well as George Stewart, Treasurer and Bob Burt, Secretary and Scribe.

Ken Domier introduced the Guest Speaker, the Hon. J.W.G. (Grant) McEwan, who served as Lieutenant-Governor of Alberta 1965-74. He is a well known Canadian Author, Teacher, Administrator, Statesman and Agriculture Specialist. Growing up in Saskatchewan, he received his degree and post graduate studies in Agriculture. He served for 18 years as a Professor at the U. of Saskatchewan. On moving to Alberta he served in Calgary as Alderman, Mayor and then with the Alberta Legislature. His prime interest is Prairie History, but his hobby is participation running and skiing - and at the age of 78! WHAT A MAN!!

Grant MacEwan

With his easy manner, Mr. McEwan kept everyone's attention as he humorously quoted "Every good man can't be a Norwegian" and spun a tale of "The Hydraulic Ram". He quipped not only about the Norwegians, but about the Scots, Brazilians and Australians. He jokingly ridiculed the Norwegians for not standing up for their rights in the Discovery of America; and of being the early Albertans, with all their Norsk history.

Following his speech a line formed to congratulate him and to obtain his autograph. Everyone expressed their appreciation and thanks for his inspiring talk.

The next meeting of the Club will be January 6th, when the speaker will be Jarl Omholt-Jensen, former National Cross Country Ski contender, editor and commentator.

The year will start out on the level, and be sure it will not go down hill.

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